



**GLOBAL CYCLING
ADVENTURES**

Greece - Ionian Islands - Bike and Sail

CORFU TO CORFU

OVERVIEW

This tour starts in Corfu - the dream island of the unforgettable Austrian empress Sissi. Our journey then leads us to lesser-known regions of this beautiful archipelago. By bike and boat we will discover the famous island of Ithaca which is said to have been the home of Odysseus. We'll visit the unforgettable green bird sanctuary island of Lefkas, the fantastic mountain world of Cephalonia and the beautiful olive groves of the small island of Paxos.

You'll stay on board a wooden motor yacht in an air-conditioned ensuite cabin. Every day a variety of delicious Greek cuisine will be served by your chef.

On this trip you have the option of joining your guides on the cycle tours or riding at your own pace using the free Ride With GPS route app.

- DURATION - 8 DAYS
- AVERAGE DISTANCE PER DAY - 28 KM
- ARRIVAL DESTINATION - CORFU
- DEPARTURE DESTINATION - CORFU

ITINERARY

DAY 1 ARRIVAL IN CORFU

Please make your own way to popular Corfu, the largest of the Ionian islands. It's the 'dream' island of the Austrian empress Sissi, and playground of the rich, famous and not-so-famous alike. Your boat will be moored in the harbour and boarding time is from 2pm. We stay here tonight, so there is time to explore the charming town of Corfu before our first dinner on board.

Cycling Distance: 0km Meals: Dinner

DAY 2 CORFU ISLAND TO SIVOTA TO LEFKAS ISLAND

This morning we cruise to Sivota, a town on the Greek mainland. From here we start our first bike ride which leads to Parga, a coastal town beautifully situated below a Venetian fortress that towers above. We'll meet the boat here and settle in for a longer cruise to Nidri on Lefkas Island.

On our way we'll pass a floating swing bridge which connects Lefkas with the Greek mainland. We spend the night in the lively harbour of Nidri.

Cycling Distance: 28km Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and/or Dinner

DAY 3 ISLANDS OF LEFKAS AND CEPHALONIA (KEFALONIA)

From the village of Nidri we cycle to a nearby waterfall, where we can stop for a swim provided the water level is high enough. Then we continue along quiet roads over hills to the picturesque harbour town of Sivota where we board the boat. We cruise to Fiskardo, located on the northern tip of the Island of Cephalonia. This colourful harbour town charms visitors with its cafes, bars, and lively promenade.

Cycling Distance: 35km Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and/or Dinner

DAY 4 ISLANDS OF CEPHALONIA AND ITHACA

Leaving Fiskardo, we climb an impressive mountain road on the west coast of Cephalonia. Along the way we are rewarded with awe inspiring views over the Assos peninsula and the famous Myrtos beach. Then we turn inland and cross the island. Shortly before the end of the ride we hop onto a small rowboat and visit the Melissani stalactite cave. Here we can marvel at the incredible blue tones created by the unique cave formations, sun and water. In Sami, the boat welcomes us back on board and we cruise to Vathy on Ithaca.

Cycling Distance: 39km Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and/or Dinner

DAY 5 ISLANDS OF ITHACA AND MEGANISI

This morning, starting from Vathy, we explore Ithaca Island on our bikes. A hilly island with spectacular scenery said to have been home to the mythical king Odysseus. Our off-the-beaten track ride shows us the special character of the Ionian Islands: gnarled olive trees, crystal clear water and friendly islanders. On Ithaca time appears to stand still. You can decide whether you are up for the challenge of a real hill climb or if you would prefer the leisurely alternative - a panoramic ride with less climbing. The Panagiotia awaits our arrival in Frikes before setting off to the small island of Meganisi.

Cycling Distance: 20 Or 28km Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and/or Dinner

DAY 6 ISLANDS OF MEGANISI AND PAXOS

This morning we explore the tiny island of Meganisi by bike. It's a panoramic ride along secluded roads and through the island's three villages, giving us a good impression of traditional Greek island life. At Spartochori beach we can stop for a swim and a coffee before sailing to Paxos Island in the afternoon. The unique natural harbour in Paxos' capital, Gaios, creates a special island atmosphere. We can spend the evening in a cosy tavern in Gaios.

Cycling Distance: 17km Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and/or Dinner

DAY 7 PAXOS TO CORFU

Paxos, the smallest of the seven Ionian Islands, is so densely covered in olive trees that the entire island seems to glisten a wonderful silver-green colour. Our morning bike ride will lead us around the whole island during which there'll be time for a swim in the sea at one of the many beaches. This afternoon the boat will take us back to Corfu, where we'll have our last dinner and get-together on board.

Cycling Distance: 23km Meals: Breakfast, Lunch and/or Dinner

DAY 8 DEPARTURE DAY - CORFU (MARINA GOUVIA)

After breakfast, we ask you to check out by 9am. You may wish to extend your holiday on Corfu Island.

Cycling Distance: 0km Meals: Breakfast

INCLUDED IN THE TOUR

- 7 nights on a standard motor yacht (lower deck twin cabin with ensuite & air conditioning)
- Meals as per the itinerary (2x full board & 5x half board)
- Guided bike tours & sightseeing as listed
- Bed linen and towels
- Drinking water on board
- Access to RideWithGPS app for self guided cycling (optional)
- English speaking tour guide
- Entries to museums and archaeological sites (group visits only)
- Maps for daily bike rides (available on board)

NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOUR

- Flights, travel visas & Travel Insurance
- Meals ashore (if not included in the tour price)
- Transfers between Corfu airport and harbour (available at extra cost)
- Bike hire
- Optional bike insurance €28
- Drinks on board (except water)
- Special dietary requests €70 (request in advance, pay on board)
- Entrance for sights not included in tour
- Beach towel for use ashore
- SGR insolvency protection scheme: €5 pp

TOUR GRADE 4: ACTIVE

A good level of fitness is required as although daily distances are only 17-40 km, the terrain is hilly with some challenging climbs of up to 400m. Total daily elevation is between 300 and 600m. Many people underestimate the amount of hill work required, so please consider an e-bike if you prefer easier cycling. Roads are mostly asphalt. You can also choose to skip a bike tour and relax on the boat instead.

If you prefer to cycle alone rather than with a group, you can cycle the tours independently and at your own pace. For orientation, we provide you with access to the free RideWithGPS route app for your smartphone, a detailed cycle map and GPS tracks. Your guides cycle the same route as you. They are therefore close by and can be contacted by phone in case of emergencies, problems or questions. Instead of a bike tour, you can also opt for a half or full day of swimming on the boat.

Safe cycling skills and familiarity with road traffic are prerequisites for taking part in our tours. All riders should be confident navigating a variety of road conditions. Those renting e-bikes should be confident in handling them as they are significantly heavier and faster than regular bikes.

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